

What is claimed is:

1. A method of mediating access to a person's availability information via a communication medium, comprising the steps of :

5 creating one or more filters, each filter including information defining how the availability information is to be presented, a parameter used to identify an individual to whom the access is to be granted, and associating a filter with the individual;

 identifying the individual when the individual attempts to access the filtered information;

 retrieving the filter associated with the individual; and

10 presenting to the individual up-to-date availability information processed by the associated filter.

2. The method according to claim 1, further including the step of deactivating said one or more filters upon satisfaction of a preset condition relating to said filter.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein said filtered information is prevented for access by the individual after said one or more filters is deactivated.

20 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of identifying the individual is by digital signature.

5. The method according to claim 1, further including the steps of:
associating a token with each filter; giving notice of the token to the individual; and use
of the token for identifying the individual and determination of the associated filter.

5 6. The method of claim 1, wherein said filtered information is a filtered view
of a calendar of the person.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein each of the one or more filters presents a
different version of the person's availability information.

10 8. The method according to claim 1, wherein said communication medium is
telephony.

15 9. The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of identifying the
individual is by caller ID.

10. The method according to claim 1, wherein said communication medium is
instant messaging.

20 11. A method of mediating access to a person via a communication medium,
comprising the steps of :

creating one or more filters, each filter including information defining an individual's ability to arrange access to the person, and at least one parameter used to identify the individual to whom the access is to be granted;

identifying the individual when the individual attempts to arrange access to the person;

determining an appropriate filter based on identification of the individual; and

arranging for access to the person by the individual within the constraints established by the appropriate filter.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said step of arranging for access to the person includes presenting to the individual up-to-date availability information of the person.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein said up-to-date availability information is presented through the appropriate filter upon identification of the individual.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein the individual up-to-date availability information of the person is dynamically updated by the appropriate filter and instantaneous availability information of the person is presented to the individual when the individual is identified.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein said up-to-date availability information

is based on detection of the person's location.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said detection of the person's location is by GPS.

5

17. The method of claim 11, wherein said communication medium is instant messaging on a global electronic network and whether access to the person by any individual depends on the individual identified.

10 18. The method of claim 11, further including the step of giving a token to the individual, said token for use in identifying the individual.

15 19. The method of claim 18, wherein said step of identifying the individual includes use of the token and one other identification means to authenticate the individual.

20. A program storage device having stored programs executable by a computer for performing method steps for mediating access to a person, the method comprising the steps of:

20 creating one or more filters, each filter for processing the availability information and to produce filtered information, each filtered information presenting a different version of the availability information;

setting parameters for identifying individuals intended to receive filtered information;

identifying individuals attempting to access filtered information, and selecting a filter based on the identified individual; and

5 presenting to the identified individual filtered information corresponding to the selected filter.